

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN

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WHILE IT IS THE WELL INTENTIONED OF THE EDITORS TO ALLOW THE LARGEST LIBERTY TO CORRESPONDENTS, IT MUST BE DISTINCTLY UNDERSTOOD THAT WE DO NOT THEREBY ENDORSE THEIR OPINIONS, OR ARE IN ANY SENSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM.

NEWS ITEMS, NOTICES AND REPORTS MUST BE SENT TO THE OFFICE NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY EVENING OF EACH WEEK, IF THEY ARE TO APPEAR IN THE CURRENT NUMBER.

TRANSIENT NOTICES, FIFTY CENTS FOR EIGHT LINES, EACH INSERTION. FOR LARGER SPACE AND PERMANENT RATES, APPLY AS ABOVE.

WE are glad that the Water Company are to give us an exhibit of the force and volume of their supply on Thanksgiving Day, at half-past three o'clock, at the Centre. This will be extremely pleasant to all who would like to know just what we are to depend upon in the future.

THANKSGIVING.

Once more returns the day of thanks and of praise to the bountiful Giver of all good. He is not worthy of the name of citizen who cannot and will not this year rejoice and give the meed of gratitude to Him who has bestowed such bounties on our land.

No earthquake has rocked our steady States. No pestilence has swept its black wing and blown its pestilential breath upon us. No financial panic has hurled ancient and honorable names into the chaos of disaster. No war has belocled our horizon. No dark suspicions and lurid hatreds have filled the ears and hearts of our people.

Instead of these things we have had peace. The unleashed storms have been withheld from the great cities, and the devastating flames have been held securely under control. Wise counsels have prevailed in manufactures and commerce. A higher morality has been felt in our literature. Religion has taken her share in the aggressive political and social life of mankind. Good citizens have displayed a desire to come to the polls, and to make their nominations and elections from men skilled and honorable and pure.

Particularly it is true that in the great productions, and in the great constructions, our nation has shown a marvelous self-restraint. We have shortened the time of our probation by refusing to lengthen the time of our willfulness. And we are the better for it, and the grander, and we have stood millions of shrinkage and are still secure.

Let it be particularly noted that we should be especially thankful for the Nation itself. We can afford to spell it with a large N—for at length the People, sober, mighty and God-fearing, have become superior to the faults of government, to the dilutions of immigration, and to the depletion and enervation of internal vices. Let us, for these things, thank God and take courage!

THE EXPRESS TRAIN.

IN response to the request of several passengers, most of whom reside in Montclair, the management of the D. L. & W. Co. took into consideration the matter of having one of the trains on the Bloomfield Branch run as an express, stopping only at Bloomfield, between Montclair and Hoboken.

This arrangement was found to be impracticable, and the time table as issued only omitted Watessing and Newark on the so-called express. This plan, however, was very objectionable to residents of Watessing, and also to all who were in the habit of going to Newark by the 8:45 A. M. train, and the superintendent very considerably modified it by having the train stop at all the stations.

Petitions are now in circulation, asking for one thing and another, (though just what these are no one seems able to discover), and it is quite probable that some further change may yet be introduced.

While the subject is uppermost, we would remind the patrons of this road that the company have shown themselves to be desirous of giving them the best accommodations which they can furnish.

It seems a simple matter to put on trains as often as people desire, and at the times most frequently demanded, but to any one familiar with such a labor, it will be plain that few things are more difficult.

Every detail has to be adjusted to the time of every train at every station. The ferryboats, too, are a potent factor, and the problem grows more difficult each year, as the growth of our towns requires more transportation. What we need is enough trains, rather than greatly increased speed.

The very impatient gentlemen who be-

grudge "the time lost by stopping at Newark" ought to remember that a large number of their fellow-passengers do business in Newark, and are entitled to be considered by the company quite as much as themselves.

If the D. L. & W. can arrange a train, which shall stop at all the stations on our Bloomfield Branch, and shall rush by Roseville and Newark and East Newark, we suppose a great many people would be pleased; but it is hardly necessary to say that this should be done, if done at all, without diminishing the accommodations now furnished to Newark travel.

To ask passengers to Newark to change cars at Roseville in winter, or to deprive them of a train between eight o'clock and ten o'clock, would be a violent tax on their good nature and friendship for the road.

The principal difficulty seems to be that no one is willing to consider the question from any standpoint, other than how the change will affect him. More-

over Bloomfield and Montclair are fast becoming suburbs of Newark and what we have said in this editorial touches business and property interests more nearly than would at first be supposed, and wise judgment covers all sides of a question.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.

DURING the past year a new interest has arisen on the subject of divorce, and the laws which relate to it. In this investigation, pulpit and press have been equally earnest and searching. Some of the facts elicited are of startling importance. It is stated on good authority that in some of the New England States, where civilization is supposed to have reached its highest fruition, the proportion of divorces to marriages is as one to eight, while in California they are one to five. Nor are these persons recruited from those who have sunk to the lowest depths of social ruin, but they are found in perhaps larger numbers among the wealthier classes, and those of high social position. To tell names would be easy—of Senators, of literary men and women of high repute, and even clergymen, who have tasted of the misery resulting from conjugal infidelities, as they are politely termed.

But to return to the statement of facts. The laws and methods governing applications for divorce are found to be so different in the various States as to give rise to endless litigation and uncertainty. So broad are the grounds for divorce allowed in some of the States as to give practical license to all who may, for any reason, desire release from an inconvenient yoke; while in others the laws are both narrow and strictly administered. In New York a decree of divorce may be allowed in case of adultery, but with the proviso that the offending party shall be forbidden to marry again. The latter prohibition is omitted in New Jersey; and New York judges are met with the query as to what shall be done with the heirs of those who are legally united under the laws of her sister State. The laws of New York also permit marriages at the tender age of fourteen for males and twelve for females.

So much for the facts. The remedies are not few, nor presented with hesitation or doubt. One party calls for divorce legislation which shall be strict and national in character, while others would keep these laws in the present loose condition. On the one hand, we are told with terrible earnestness there must be no separation except for adultery; on the other, the miseries of life without love, and a home without happiness, are told with a sense of wrong and injury to appeal the stoutest heart. Surely something must be done. Nothing less than a society for the prevention of "cruelty to the heads of families" can meet the difficulty. But the trouble is not new. Socrates fled before the wrath of Xanthippe, and philosophers he was, found it hard to keep his temper. And Milton, although he was able to write "Paradise Lost and Regained," found no paradise at home, but, with a pen dipped in the gall of home-bitterness, argued lustily for separation upon proof of incompatibility.

It is unnecessary to say that the almost uniform teaching of the Church has been that divorce should be granted for adultery and that alone—that this has been widened to include cases of attempt upon life, of outrageous cruelty, of incurable madness, and of personal imbecility and desertion. Further than this the Church refuses to go. To admit incompatibility of temper would prevent any attempt to mend matters by mutual accommodation, and would encourage the natural inconstancy of human affection. Bishop Burnet tells us that divorces were freely granted in the Canton of Berne, but any husband and wife applying for one were first required to pass six weeks together in one small room, furnished with one chair, one plate, one spoon, one bed, and so on through the whole furniture, with the single exception of a small treatise on the duties of husband and wife, of which there was a copy for each.

The Bishop adds that, under this régime, the parties, finding it necessary to accommodate one another, were soon on excellent terms, gave up the idea of separation, and were never known to make application again.

It is, perhaps, as well not to make too much of "fine feelings." Honest hearts will find a way out of all difficulties; and if the laws are rigid, so much the greater need of caution in contracting lifelong obligations.

"Would you contract a friendship that shall last a long time?" asks Mons. de Lacy. "Be a long time in contracting it."

OFFICIAL LIST OF PRESENTS

(Advertisement.)
Drawn at the Entertainment given in Library Hall, Wednesday Evening, by Excelsior Lodge, Knights of Honor:

1475. Six Chairs.
1282. Lantern.
1161. Bushel Potatoes.
398. Brush.
1321. Satchel.
127. Sewing Machine Ticker.
844. Book.
701. One Oil Can.
1118. Stereoscope and Views.
1388. Pocketbook—F.
1373. One Plaque.
779. Canary and Cage—A.
428. One Pair Chickens.
362. One Box Cigars.
1171. One Brush.
667. Wall Bracket.
1555. One Pocketbook—J.
1131. One Set Hairbrush.
914. One Plaque.
1563. One Pair Ladies Shoes.
1048. Picture Frame—C.
1451. One Pair Chromos—F.
1085. One Pocket Book—A.
528. Pail of Jelly.
1530. One Clock.
29. One Hat.
1403. One Galvanized Water Pail.
363. One Roast of Pork.
1273. Hand Satchel—B.
1062. Card Receiver.
836. Pocketbook—B.
186. Galvanized Water Pail.
1376. Majolica Card Basket—E.
794. Pocketbook—J.
1156. Half Ton of Coal.
1505. One Pair Lamp—B.
414. One Parlor Lamp—B.
1108. Leg of Mutton.
1091. Rug.
1497. Hand Satchel—D.
45. One Tidy.
218. Galvanized Water Pail.
285. Card Basket—C.
698. Tidy—A.
749. Box Cigars.
164. White Holy Cross.
310. One Dove.
581. Glass Oil Can.
1291. One Pocketbook—C.
444. One Pair Pictures—B.
735. Plush Picture Frame.
1496. One Gallon Oysters.
1036. One Card Table.
1014. New Home Sewing Machine.
488. Half Ton Coal.
786. Dressed Doll.
943. One Chrono, Slater & Chew.
787. Pair Brackets—B.
112. One Gallon California Wine.
1402. Half Dozen Cans Corn.
1214. One Pair Chromos—G.
937. Flower Vase—B.
734. Box Toilet Soap—B.
1026. One Box Cigars.
736. One Pair Chromos—C.
288. One Parlor Lamp—E.
757. Bottle Dressing.
895. Pair Chromos—A.
1560. Pair Chromos—E.
312. Half Ton Coal.
1408. Canary and Cage—B.
837. Plush Frame—E.
635. Pocketbook—D.
1492. Half doz. Cans Corn.
1017. Malacca Whip.
1472. Vase Flowers.
260. Sofa Pillow.
1031. One-half Dozen Cans Corn.
1424. Galvanized Water Pail.
36. Box Toilet Soap—A.
998. Pair Chromos—B.
512. One Lamp—C.
970. One Shaving Cup.
641. One-half Ton Coal.
1094. Dressed Lamb.
72. Britannia Teapot.
511. Galvanized Water Pail.
207. One Pair Leghorn Chickens.
28. Majolica Card Basket—D.
1422. One Tidy—B.
421. Plush Frame—B.
1148. Glass Oil Can.
1363. Box Cigars.
863. Hand Satchel—A.
1525. Tidy, C.
359. Plush Frame—G.
1009. Bushel Potatoes.
595. Card Basket—C.
584. Five-pound Box Candy.
1193. One-half Dozen Cans Corn.
322. Bottle Cologne.
127. Order for Hat.
102. Vases—B.
122. Pair Chromos—D.
338. Silver Mounted Sugar Bowl.
504. Baby Carriage.
881. One Gallon California Wine.
884. One Pocketbook—G.
512. One Photograph Album.
630. One Bottle Water-proof Dressing.
639. One Tidy—E.
1127. Two Boxes of Blacking.
809. One Chrono—H.
429. One Brush.
1565. Hand Satchel—E.
196. Cup and Saucer.
663. Stereoscope and Views.
632. Twenty-five Pounds Flour.
812. Dress Pattern.
362. Pocketbook—L.
153. Parlor Lamp—A.
783. One Ham.
1482. Bedroom Stove.
273. Horse and Wagon.
543. Briarwood Pipe.
319. Hand Satchel—C.
355. Brush.
1232. One Polo Cap.
1200. Card Basket—B.
1538. Bottle Shoe Dressing.
419. One Pair Lamp Chimneys.
510. One Teakettle.
261. Boneless Ham.
174. Two Loads Building Stone.
586. Order for Canary and Cage.
398. Pair Rose Blankets.
1296. One Brush.
963. Half Ton Coal.
384. Card Basket—F.
130. Silver Plated Butter Dish.
569. Card Basket—A.
406. Pocketbook—H.
328. Pair Brackets—A.
385. One Toy Billy Goat.
1248. Twenty-five Pounds Flour.
161. Pocketbook—K.
1528. Lamp—D.
1038. Tidy—C.
578. Pair Vases—A.
208. Order for Hat.
1467. Brush.
1078. Folding Rocking Chair.
1542. Seven Pounds Sugar.
1255. Pocketbook—E.
85. Live Goat.
1265. Galvanized Water Pail.

List of Letters.

Remaining unclaimed in the Post Office at Bloomfield, N. J., on Wednesday, Nov. 28th.

Anderson, Mrs. Isa-La Vero, Montville, N. J., James Tunvault, Frank William, J. T. O'Connor, Margaret Weiner, Frank Zein, Theodore Force, Georgiana.

Any person calling for the above will please ask for "advertised" letters.
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Attorney and Counselor at Law,
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Residence: Elm Street, Bloomfield.
Acknowledgements, etc., taken.

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Residence: Washington Street, Bloomfield.
Acknowledgements, etc., taken.

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